

# Ripped from the ROUNDUP

Ripped straight from the pages of old Space News Roundups, here's what happened at JSC on this date:

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After traveling 3,338,200 miles through space in seven days, 22 hours and 56 minutes, the Gemini V spacecraft and crew floated to a landing in West Atlantic waters, ending their record-breaking flight at 6:55 a.m. CST August 29.

Bearded Astronauts L. Gordon Cooper Jr. and Charles Conrad Jr. landed some 90 miles west of the prime recovery ship, the aircraft carrier USS *Lake Champlain*, after making 120 revolutions around the Earth in just under eight days. The flight was cut one revolution short because of a storm called Hurricane Betsy in the planned recovery area.

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After last month's historic Apollo-Soyuz flight and two weeks of hospitalization and rest in Hawaii, the three Apollo astronauts, Tom Stafford, Vance Brand, and Deke Slayton, have come home to Houston and to JSC.

The crew's expected arrival July 26 was delayed because of a pulmonary irritation resulting from inhalation of toxic gas minutes before splashdown. Their reported chest discomfort led to admittance to Tripler Army Medical Center in Honolulu, Hawaii, where they remained in isolation for six days. Nine days of semi-isolation followed, in company of their wives and families, during which they were still monitored for any further irritation or discomfort.

The three families arrived in Washington, D.C., for post-mission press conferences. At a White House ceremony, President Ford presented the crew with NASA Distinguished Service Medals and promoted Tom Stafford to the rank of Air Force Major General.

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The Hubble Space Telescope lit a fire of excitement in the scientific community this week when its cameras discovered a massive stellar nursery with almost 60 stars in a cluster formerly thought to include 27 objects.

Scientists at the HST Control Center Monday released four photos of a star cluster called R-136 in 30 Doradus — "The Swordfish" — which resides in the large Magellanic Cloud in the Southern Hemisphere.



# Astronaut Collins honored with Stewart Award

The Mighty Eighth Air Force Museum recently honored NASA Astronaut and U.S.A.F. Col. Eileen Collins for her extraordinary role as an aviator and the first female shuttle commander. Ben Love, a veteran of 25 B-17 missions as part of the Eighth Air Force and a director of the museum in Savannah, presented Collins with the 1999 Brigadier General James M. Stewart Award at a ceremony in downtown Houston July 19.

"Colonel Collins was selected for her leadership on her three spaceflights and the technical problems she overcame during two of them," said Love. "You [Eileen] represent the finest elements of being an American in your work... You serve as a great role model, much like Jimmy Stewart."

Collins has logged more than 537 hours in space. She served as pilot on STS-63 (February 2-11, 1995) and STS-84 (May 15-24, 1997), and shuttle commander on STS-93 (July 22-27, 1999).

The Stewart Award, an annual award named for airman and popular screen actor Jimmy Stewart, honors an individual or a group of individuals in recognition of uncommon aviation skills, dedicated leadership and high competence of aviation-minded men and women.



NASA JSC Photo 2000-05317 by Robert Markowitz  
Eighth Air Force veteran Ben Love, right, presents the 1999 Brigadier General James Stewart Award to Astronaut Eileen Collins.

"Stewart's name in itself points to the traits the nominees would seek in candidates for this award," explained Love. "I flew combat at the same time he did, from a different base, but I assure you, he did not take the easy combat missions — he was the real McCoy."

Astronaut Collins is the third recipient of the Stewart Award. Past recipients include Colonel John H. Beard, U.S.A.F., leader of the longest aerial combat mission, which lasted 35.5 hours; and General Michael E. Ryan, U.S.A.F., Chief of Staff of United States Air Force. ■

# International astronauts honored for outstanding contributions to space program

Canadian Astronaut Dafydd (Dave) Rhys Williams and Julie Payette, international members of NASA's astronaut corps, were honored recently for their contributions to both the American and Canadian space programs.

The Ninety-Nines, Inc., an international organization of women pilots, honored the two Canadian Space Agency astronauts for outstanding contributions in promoting aviation and aerospace throughout the world. The award was presented in Atchison, Kansas, the birthplace of Amelia Earhart.

Williams' and Payette's names will now appear in the Forest of Friendship. The Forest, located in Atchison, is home to trees representing all 50 states and 35 countries from around the world, and



Dave Williams



Julie Payette

includes flags and plaques honoring the men and women who have contributed significantly to aviation and aerospace.

Williams joined NASA as a member of the 1995 class of astronauts, reporting to the Johnson Space Center in March of that year. In 1998, he was a crewmember

on the STS-90 Neurolab mission focusing on the effects of microgravity on the brain and nervous system and recognizing "the decade of the brain." The STS-90 mission completed 256 orbits of the Earth, traveling 6.3 million miles. He currently leads JSC's Space and Life Sciences Directorate, which encompasses medical requirements and benefits of spaceflight as well as planetary exploration missions.

Payette is a member of the 1996 astronaut class. She was a member of the STS-96 crew that carried four tons of logistics and supplies to the International

Space Station in 1999 to prepare it for the first Expedition crew, scheduled to arrive later this year. She is currently a member of the Crew Test Support Team providing crew insight and support to the development and testing of space station hardware and software in Russia. ■

# TICKET WINDOW

## The following discount tickets are available at the Exchange Stores

General Cinema Theaters	.....	\$5.50
Sony Loew's Theaters	.....	\$5.50
AMC Theaters	.....	\$5.00
Fiesta Texas	.....adult ..	\$20.50 .. child (under 48 inches) .. \$17.25
Astroworld	.....1 day ..	\$21.00 .. 2 day .. \$31.00
WaterWorld	.....	\$12.00
Moody Gardens (2 events) (does not include Aquarium Pyramid)	.....	\$10.75
Moody Gardens (Aquarium only)	.....	\$9.25
Sea World	.....adult ..	\$29.00 .. child (3-11 years) .. \$19.25
Schlitterbahn	.....adult ..	\$21.50 .. child (3-11 years) .. \$18.00
Space Center Houston	.....adult ..	\$11.00 .. child (age 4-11) .... \$7.25
(JSC civil service employees free.)		
Space Center Houston annual pass	.....	\$18.75
Splash Town	.....1 day ..	\$13.00 .. Season Pass ... \$37.50
Postage Stamps (book of 20)	.....	\$6.60

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Monday-Friday  
Bldg. 3 7 a.m.-4 p.m.  
Bldg. 11 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

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➤ Metro tokens and value cards are available.

**Super September Sale**  
➤ 10% off all merchandise, candy and cards Sept 1-15! Stop by the stores for details.

**For additional information, please call x35350.**  
*Please bring your driver's license to pay by personal check.*